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N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

REPORT ON THE BEST CULTIVATED FARMS.

The Committee of the Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, for awarding premiums on the best cultivated farms, have attended to that duty, and report as follows:

The number of claimants is but four. The committee cannot withhold an expression of their deep regret, that among the many enterprising and successful farmers of our commonwealth, so few should be found disposed to put in their claims for the liberal premiums offered by the Society.

The Society believed that they could in no way better promote the interests of agriculture, than by appropriating a considerable portion of the funds, which in former years had been expended at the annual cattle show at Brighton, in a way that they hoped would operate as a stimulus on farmers to improve the condition and thereby increase the products of their farms. And here it may be observed, that while they have considered it advisable to bestow so large amount in premiums for the best cultivated farms, and for the most successful efforts in the culture of the various crops, they have also paid due regard to the encouragement of farms in the introduction and propagation of improved breeds of stock. This they have done by distributing a portion of their funds to the county societies, which had, in a great measure, absorbed the interest which before their establishment had been taken in the State show at Brighton, to be appropiated by them, under the direction of committees from the State society, in premiums for the best stock. The results, as reported by the committees appointed to that service, have fully satisfied the Trustees of the expedieney of that measure. And although their efforts to bring about a competition among farmers for premiums on the best cultivated farms, have not been attended with all the success they could wish, they nevertheless hope and believe they will eventually tend to elicit much useful information, and to elevate the character of our agricultural community.

Among the few farms offered for inspection with a view of obtaining a premium, the committee are pleased in finding most of them of a character highly meritorious, and deserving of public notice and approbation.

The system pursued by Robert Colt upon his farm at Pittsfield, with some few exceptions, we think highly judicious, and fully entitles him to the honorable appellation of a skilful and enterprising farmer. His time and manner of ploughing, his ample plans for making compost, and his rotation of crops, are such as we apprehend all judicious farmers must approve.

The committee are aware that many good farmers would consider Mr Colt's plan of applying long or green manure, as a top-dressing, upon grass lands, to be bad economy, believing it better to mix this manure with loam or peat mud during the summer, and to spread the compost upon the grass in the following spring. It is, however, the practice of many very successful farmers, to apply long manure to their grass lands in the manner pursued by Mr Colt. This top-dressing of long manure when applied in the spring when the grass is starting, the only time at which any top-dressing should be applied, is subjected to but trifling loss from evaporation, being soon shaded by the grass, and the nutritive parts which are disengaged, are carried down by rains. It is by the fermentation of long manure when unmixed with other substances, to imbibe the gases, or what is called ammonia, more than by drying, that the nutritive properties of manure are lost. But when swamp or peat mud or loam can be had to mix with unfermented manure, the committee are of opinion that the farmer will find it more economical to make a compost for his top-dressing. The mud or vegetable mould will imbibe all the ammonia that is thrown off by fermentation, and at the same time add much to the value of the heap. By mixing lime with the mass the compost will be greatly benefited, as it will hasten the disengagement of ammonia, and at the same time aid in correcting the acidity in the peat mud.

Mr Colt turns over his green sward in the spring, which we think preferable to fall ploughing. It is well known that any vegetable or animal substance when buried in the spring or summer, will decompose more rapidly and thoroughly, and of course the soil made lighter, than when buried in the fall or winter. There is another very great advantage derived from spring ploughing. The green herbage which is turned under will furnish an ample supply of food for the worms, which usually abound in green sward, and will therefore seldom seize upon the growing crop. The correctness of this theory has been well established by the experience of some intelligent farmers made known since the publication of the committee's last annual report, in which this time of ploughing and for the same reason, was recommended.

We take the liberty of suggesting for the consideration of Mr Colt, whether it would not be an improvement on his plan of rotation of crops, to plant his sward lands the first season after turning over, with corn, roots, or other hoed crops, rather than sowing with the smaller grains; and instead of corn or roots the second year, to sow the smaller grains and stock with grass seed, without disturbing the inverted sod. The surface the second year, may be made sufficiently smooth with the cultivator and harrow, for the reception of the grain and grass seed, and it is unnecessary to assure any farmer who will take the pains to examine for himself, that the inverted sod which is kept down, is much lighter and in better condition for allowing the roots of the grain or grass to penetrate, than it can be put into by all the ploughing that can be given to it. By this process, the poorer part of the soil which has been turned up, is kept at the surface and enriched by exposure to the action of the atmosphere, and by cultivation, the soil thereby deepened and improved and put in better condition for a second rotation. Some of the committee have tried Mr Colt's plan of sowing grain upon the inverted sward the first season after turning over, and have found the crop to be materially injured by the grass growing up from between the furrow slices. Where a crop of corn or roots is planted the first season, the grass is kept down by the hoe, and the field left clean and in fine condition for wheat, rye or oats, and laying to grass the second season.

The location of Mr Colt's farm is favorable and the soil naturally good, and withal exhibits strong proofs of judicious and successful cultivation. Mr Colt has also done much by way introducing and propagating the improved breeds of cattle and swine. The committee are therefore unanimously of opinion that he is entitled to, and they accordingly award him the first premium of $200.

The farm of Joshua R. Lawton, of Great Barrington, is well managed. The committee do not approve of all his plans, particularly his mode of ploughing green sward, and his habit of stacking and feeding out his hay upon his fields. His rotation of crops we consider judicious, and exactly corresponds with the views of the committee upon that subject. His farming operations generally, are conducted with a good degree of skill and success, and with a very commendable zeal for improvement. The committee award him the third premium of $150.

The farm of Increase S. Wheeler, of Framingham, appears to be well and profitably managed by Mr Vose, a very faithful agent. He manures liberally, and considering the nature and quality of his soil, he gets large crops.

In heavy manuring, judiciously applied, consists in a great measure, the secret of profitable cultivation, and Mr Wheeler has no doubt satisfied himself of the fact, that one acre of land dressed with forty loads of manure will yield a greater net profit to the owner, than two acres manured with only twenty loads each. This shallow ploughing is decidedly objectionable, and should be denounced by every farmer who calculates to thrive by the plough. This deteriorating practice, so long pursued by our ancestors, has reduced many of our New England farms to hungry knolls or barren wastes. Deep ploughing and liberal manuring are the only sure and expeditious means of restoring them. If we would effect substantial and permanent improvement of our soils, and desire to reap abundant harvests, we must begin by deep ploughing. The reasons for this are too obvious, and the principle too well settled to admit of a doubt.

Mr Wheeler's buildings are well constructed, and his plans for making manure are ample and well contrived, having a cellar under the whole of his barn, well adapted to this purpose. He has been fortunate in the selection of his breed of swine. It would have been gratifying to the committee to have been informed of the age of his hogs, the method and expense of fattening. The average weight of 5 of the 11 hogs slaughtered on his farm, was over 500 lbs.; and the average weight of the whole over 443 lbs.; much beyond the usual average weight of hogs. When the fact is so ap-

parent and so well established that there is a certain profit in fattening some breeds of swine, and as well established that there is a certain loss on others, it is matter of surprise that farmers generally pay so little attention to the selection of their breed.

While upon this subject, the committee are reminded that they can render an important service to farmers, who are desirous of obtaining information on this interesting branch of rural economy, by recommending to their perusal a work entitled the "American Swine Breeder," written by Henry W. Ellsworth, Esq., and recently published in this city by Weeks, Jordan & Co. The book is well written, and is highly creditable to the respectable author, whose industry and research has enabled him to communicate much sound practical information on this important branch of agriculture. It is well entitled to the notice, and should be in the hands of every farmer.

With the exception of shoal ploughing, we think well of Mr Wheeler's skill as a farmer, and accordingly award him the fourth premium of $75.

The agricultural operations of Mr Jacobs, of West Scituate, appear to be strictly confined to the old system of husbandry. His farm, however, exhibits an appearance of great neatness, and speaks well of the industry and thrift of its owner, who has contrived to support a numerous family, and to accumulate considerable wealth from the proceeds of his farm alone. The committee recommend that a gratuity of fifty dollars be given to Mr Jacobs.

All which is respectfully submitted by your committee.

WM. PRESCOTT,
P. C. BROOKS,
E. PHINNEY,
JNO. C. GRAY,
HENRY CODMAN.

REPORT ON VEGETABLE AND GRAIN CROPS.

The committee of the Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society "on Grain Crops," report:—That two claims only were presented, which the committee thought deserving of premiums, viz.

1. To Seneca Adams, of Newburyport, for his crop of onions, being 476 1-2 bushels on an acre, $20.

On the same acre were raised, beside the onions, 65 bushels of potatoes, some corn and beets.

2. To Peleg S. Gardner, of Somerset, Bristol county, for his extraordinary crop of winter rye, being 84 bushels on two acres, weighing 56 lbs. the bushel, lacking six ounces—$20.

One other claim was made by Tristram and David Little, not verified by the certificate of any disinterested laborer, as required, and exhibiting no product which, in the opinion of the committee, is deserving of a premium. They are sorry thus to decide on a claim from those whose former applications have been so respectable.

The committee recommend, as usual, that the statements of the claimants to whom premiums have been awarded, be published as part of this report.

Per order,

P. C. BROOKS.

February 7, 1840.

To the Committee of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society on Agricultural Products.

The subscriber presents for premium the following crop of rye—the product of two acres of land, cultivated by him on his farm in Somerset, Bristol county.

The land in question, is situated near the margin of Lee's river, in the aforesaid town, and is rather a dry, gravelly soil, well adapted to the growth of rye, when judiciously managed. The last year the crop was potatoes, and about eighty barrels of Menhaden fish used as a manure. The crop of potatoes were quite good for the season. The land for sowing the rye was ploughed the latter part of September. The rye was then sown: nearly three bushels of seed was used: no manure was used the present season. The crop of rye promised well, and proved to be good: the harvest was completed in July, and the threshing was done the latter part of August and beginning of September, and the whole product found to be eightyfour bushels, of nearly fiftysix pounds, the loss in getting the crop being more than doubly sufficient to make up for the loss of about six ounces to the bushel in weight short of fiftysix pounds.

The value of the crop is estimated as follows:

84 bushels rye at $1,	$84 00
3 tons straw at $5,	15 00
	$99 00

The expenses of the crop are thus estimated:

For ploughing land and getting in rye,	$5 00
3 bushels rye for seed,	3 00
Reaping, binding and stacking,	8 00
Threshing, cleaning, &c.	10 00
	$26 00

PELEG S. GARDNER.

Somerset, Nov. 21, 1839.

P. S.—The land before named is the same lot presented for the Society's notice in 1837, but being too late, obtained only a gratuity of ten dollars.

P. S. G.

I certify that I assisted in the cultivation of the crop of rye as set forth in the foregoing statement, and that said statement is true, according to my best knowledge and belief.

ISAAC J. SIMMONS.

I certify that I have surveyed the lot of land referred to in the foregoing statement, and that said lot contains two acres and no more.

DAVID GRAY.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Bristol, ss. Nov. 21, 1839. Then Peleg S. Gardner, Isaac S. Simmons and David Gray, made oath severally to the truth of the foregoing statements by them subscribed—before me,

JOHN MASON, *Justice Peace.*

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society:

GENTLEMEN—The following is a statement of a crop of onions raised by the subscriber the past season, which is offered for your premium.

In the summer of 1838, the land was planted with potatoes and onions, and manured with three cords of stable dung. The crop was not large, as near as I can recollect. About the first of May, 1839, drawed on 3 1-4 cords of manure, which was ploughed in: the ground was harrowed smooth: three pounds of seed was sowed with a machine in rows: ten days' labor in weeding the same: four do. in harvesting; and there were four hundred and seventysix and a half bushels of onions and sixtyfive do. of potatoes, eight do. of corn, and nine barrels of beets.

The expense of cultivation was as follows:

3 1-4 cords of manure,	$13 00
Ploughing and harrowing,	2 50
Seed,	4 50
Sowing,	1 50
Weeding,	10 00
Harvesting,	4 00
	$35 50

Respectfully, yours,

SENECA ADAMS.

Newbury, Nov. 25, 1839.

I the subscriber, hereby certify that Daniel Plummer, of Newbury, personally appeared before me, and was sworn to survey the above described land according to the best of his abilities.

SAM'L NEWMAN,
Justice of the Peace.

Newbury, Nov. 23, 1839.

I hereby certify that I surveyed the above lot, which contains one acre.

Nov. 23d, 1839. DANIEL PLUMER.

This may certify that I assisted in harvesting the above crop, and the within statement is correct.

SAMUEL PLUMER.

We with pleasure give place to the subjoined communication, which was read at the Fifth Agricultural meeting. The sample of corn sent us at the same time, is remarkable for its size; and should any of our friends wish for some of the seed, Dr Hartwell would be happy to supply them. We wish the Dr would be kind enough when a convenient opportunity presents, to send us a trace of half a dozen ears, as we are desirous of seeing the corn on the cob.

H. C.

For the New England Farmer.

GROWING INDIAN CORN.

As this is one of the principal staple products of the agriculturalist of New England, I believe the result of my crop of corn, together with the method adopted for its production, will interest many of your readers.

The piece of land upon which my corn was raised, has been accurately surveyed by Mr L. Ammidown, and was found to contain one acre, one rood, and four rods. (See certificate.) It may be proper to state that this survey includes only the land which the growth of corn occupied, and was not measured from wall to wall, but the lines were run upon the outside rows of corn.

The corn in the ear which grew upon this lot, has been accurately measured in the presence of the Hon. Linus Child and Moses Plimpton, Esq., whose certificates are subjoined. The quantity thus measured amounted to *two hundred and fifty-eight* bushels. I have since caused one and a half bushel of these ears of corn to be shelled, agreeable to the above measure, and find that a bushel and a half of ears yields *seven half pecks* of corn, which

would make in the whole 150 1-2 bushels of shelled corn. But a deduction should be made for the greenness of the corn, it not being yet sufficiently dry to be called marketable: how much it will shrink I am not sufficiently experienced to form a correct estimate.

The soil which I cultivate is what geologists call *Gneiss:* it contains a small trace of clay, and abounds in *iron:* no lime can be detected: it has more than the usual attraction for moisture, and in its natural state, was called by farmers cold moist land—the produce of which ten years ago, was not worth twentyfive cents to the acre: it was subdued and brought into mowing by myself, about eight years ago, in which condition it has remained—a mowing lot, without manure or cultivation, until about a year ago, when it was simply ploughed.—About the first week in May it was harrowed, and twentyfive loads of long or green horse manure spread over it: it was then ploughed as deep as it could conveniently be done; then harrowed again with a horse harrow, and seventeen loads to the acre of fine fermented manure which had lain in a heap during the winter, spread over it and ploughed in lightly with a horse. The land was then furrowed one way only, with a space of three feet and ten inches between the furrows: seven loads of fine manure to the acre was put in the hill, at about the distance of two and a half feet. The corn was planted upon this small quantity of manure to the hill, on the tenth of May—five or six kernels to the hill.

The corn was hoed (ploughed but one way) three times, in the old fashioned way, by hilling up, on the tenth and twentieth of June and first week in July.

This extraordinary production is to be accounted for partly by the manner of cultivation and partly by the kind of corn that was planted. In the first place, it is necessary from the shortness of our seasons, to select a kind of corn the most prolific and which will ripen in the shortest space of time.—Again, the land and manure should be adapted to the immediate wants of this tender plant from its first germination. It is well known to agricultural chemists, that the best and only proper nutriment for seeding plants is geine, or decomposed organic matters. Now it will be seen that this method of applying manure (above mentioned,) is well calculated for these purposes. The small quantity of fine manure that was put in the hill, contained the geine in a soluble state—ready elaborated for the first wants of the tender infant plant. The second spreading of decomposed manure was calculated to operate in a similar manner, after the corn roots had expanded to their farthest extent and exhausted the soluble geine in the hill: the green or long manure, which was first deeply ploughed in, would become decomposed, and the geine rendered soluble and fit for assimilation by the corn at the time of its earing and filling out.

At the time of hoeing, I prefer the plough to the cultivator, for this reason—that it elevates the hill: I have observed that a hill of corn on my land that is raised above the general average height, yields the largest corn; while one below the average, generally yields small corn.

At the third hoeing the plough sinks into the subsoil and brings the geine within reach of the shorter roots of the corn—while at the same time in hoeing, the subsoil completely covers the soil and manure, preventing the same from evaporating and drying during the hot weeks in July and August. Or should a superabundance of rain fall, the gutters are cut one way only by the plough to carry off the water.

The kind of corn which I planted I consider to be the best adapted to our northern latitude, of any that can be found. It contains eight rows of kernels, is of a beautiful golden yellow color, producing occasionally three, and very frequently two ears on a stalk: the cob is comparatively small, as will be seen by the average of shelled corn to the bushel of ears: the kernel is deep and large—quite heavy—fifty of the largest weighing an ounce. I have no particular name for this corn.

SAMUEL HARTWELL.

—

I hereby certify that I surveyed the ground for Dr Hartwell above referred to, and found it to contain one acre, one fourth and four rods.

LUCIUS H. AMMIDOWN,
Surveyor.

—

We hereby certify, that we were present at the measuring of Dr S. Hartwell's corn, above referred to, and found it to be two hundred and fiftyeight bushels of ears.

LINUS CHILD,
MOSES PLIMPTON.

Southbridge, Oct. 17, 1839.

For the N. E. Farmer.

A KNOWLEDGE OF BOTANY IMPORTANT TO THE FARMER.

Botany, or the science of plants, is one of very great importance to the world, inasmuch as from its subjects we derive many of the most important remedies for our sicknesses, as well as the essential and luxurious articles of our diet in time of health. So greatly important are its subjects in supplying the physical wants of man, that if they were extinguished from the earth, then indeed it would become a desert, unfit for the abode of rational beings, whose existence here must also cease with death of vegetable nature.

The importance of a knowledge of this science to a *farmer*, is so clear that it might seem an idle waste of words to employ them in attesting the sobriety of the fact. He lives surrounded by the vegetable kingdom. The employment of *his life* is to cause the herb and the tender plant to shoot forth with more luxuriance, and to improve in quality under his nursing care. All nature contributes of its energies to aid him in his grand designs. The storm and the sunshine, day and night, times and seasons, are powerful auxiliaries in accomplishing his will. Nor are the results of his labors, his failures or successes, fraught with consequences to him alone. "The *king* himself is served of the fruit of the field." The wondering eyes and fainting stomachs of every other class in community, from the king on his throne to the culprit in his cell, demand of him the life-continuing necessaries and comforts of their existence. To them, then, he is responsible for the care with which he sows and the attention whereby he reaps.

It is not our object in this short communication, to call the attention of young farmers to the analysis of flowers and by that to a classification of plants. This, however *important* it may be in the economy of farming, would be deemed an act of ultraism quite unpardonable. Still, however, its advantages must be evident, as the anecdote of the immortal Linnæus will fully demonstrate. It will be recollected by many, that in one of his botanical excursions he visited a country where the cattle were all dying off as by a pestilence, greatly to the dismay and pecuniary damage of the inhabitants. By his research, he discovered growing in their fields a plant, which from its peculiar features, he pronounced the cause of the sad calamity. His discovery was communicated to the inhabitants, the weed destroyed, and the evils which it had occasioned were stayed. How far such applications of this science might produce salutary effects in this, and indeed all countries, we know not. There are probably many plants that we scarcely notice, which in their present localities, are exercising more pernicious effects than we usually imagine; and were their qualities fully known, we should probably be wonders to ourselves that we allowed their existence, while their extirpation might destroy causes which are actually impeding our progress.

The connexion between vegetable physiology and practical agriculture is obvious, from the fact that all plants are living things, having periods of germination, growth, maturity and decay, and that to carry them through such an existence, they are provided with organs adapted to the various purposes which their existence requires—such as nutrition, exhalation, &c.; that their growth like that of animals, consists of an extension of their parts, which in different individuals varies in proportion with the circumstances attending it, and with the species and variety to which they belong.

Plants, unlike animals, are destitute of the powers of locomotion—consequently, the materials which continue their existence and enter into their composition and growth, must all be found in and around the little territory they occupy. Consequently, a knowledge of their nature and habits is of the greatest consequence to the cultivator, for without it he cannot adapt them to localities favorable to their perfect developement; while by an acquaintance with these, he may, as has been done with many of our most valuable vegetables, cultivate them in a perfection far beyond what the workings of nature ever accomplished, even under the most favorable circumstances. Thus science aids him continually, if he will invoke her aid, in bringing new and undreamed of qualities to light. But if *ignorance* of the subjects of his care and solicitude, spreads its black cloud over his operations—his chances of success are small—not one, against ten of failure. Plants have the power of extracting from the atmosphere and the earth, such qualities as are best adapted to their growth; or rather they, after having partaken of the aliment which nature provides them, have organs for throwing off such substances as are foreign to their composition.—Hence we see that they will not often for two generations flourish to advantage on the same soils, and that those which are most tenacious of the parental inheritance, will eventually extract all those qualities, unless they are renewed, which are peculiar to themselves, and become extinct. While the earth is thus exhausting itself in the support of one kind of plant, it may be accumulating materials for the advancement of another; and from this supposition leads us to adopt a system of rotation of crops, a system which we find pervading the operations of nature, from her noblest forests of pines and oaks, to the more humble groves of ferns and lichens.—*How*, in the common pursuits of agriculture, shall we determine what kind of plants are best calculated to succeed such as have recently matured on

the soil? *Observation* to be sure may determine it, and life may hasten to its wane before we arrive at facts; and then, as *book farming* is denounced as a sort of unholy innovation, we must not record the results for the benefit of our successors. We *may* by a sort of instinct hit upon the right subject to transfer to the soil, but we are *very* likely to select something uncongenial to its circumstances. But if *science* holds its lamp, whose oil is like that of the widow's cruise, unfailing, and the more we use the more remains, around our path, we can determine at once wherein the secret of our strength lies, and apply accordingly.

Plants, like men and animals, are liable to diseases and premature decay; and in the vegetable as in the animal kingdom, preventives when they may be had, are much better than cures. Disease is the result of various causes. It may result from a plant's being located in a soil ill adapted to supply its emergencies, while another of different family would flourish well:—in such cases the disorder may become hereditary, until at length the article becomes valueless; or it may by timely care be cured. The atmosphere of different localities may essentially affect vegetables, such as being too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry. These are evils which are to be avoided; but how on introducing a new plant or in pushing our experiments with the old, are we to dodge them? Just as the physician tells an individual what climates and exposures he must avoid and what habits he must adhere to, as he values health and life, by a knowledge of its systems, habits and predispositions.

Yours, truly, W. B.

Mount Osceola, Feb. 4, 1840.

For the N. E. Farmer.

NORFOLK ISLAND PINE.

A beautiful plant of this majestic and lofty tree, is in the possession of the Hon. John Lowell, and has been reared by him in his green house at Roxbury. Whoever has visited the annual festival of flowers and fruits of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, for the two past years, must recollect its elegant contour and vivid foliage. Its age we have reasons to suppose, is towards four years from the seed, and its height something more than three feet. Several seedlings were brought from the island, which gives a specific name to the tree; and if our conjectures are correct, of this lot, (the only one so imported to this neighborhood) is the fine individual above mentioned. Others of the same are growing in Salem and elsewhere, but none so fine as that in possession of Mr Lowell.

The Norfolk Island Pine belongs to a small group of forest trees, remarkable for their great height and peculiar proportions. Growing at a considerable altitude on the mountainous regions of its native habitat, it was reasonable to suppose that it might be gradually acclimated to some portion of our own latitudes. Attempts to cultivate it in the open air in Great Britain have failed. Curious however as it may seem, yet it is a well received fact among English geologists, that a plant very nearly identical with the Norfolk Island Pine, once grew in Britain, as proved by the frequent discovery of petrifactions or vegetable remains in the lias of Dorsetshire, answering to this now foreign species.

The appearance of the Norfolk Island Pine, (scientifically called *Araucaria excelsa,)* in its young and mature stages of growth, are so distinct as hardly to be recognized as belonging to the same individual species of plant. The present condition of Mr Lowell's specimen renders it an attractive object in the collection of the green house. Its stem is covered with those scale-like leaves which we see in the fir balsam, while its axillary branches are entirely clothed with small, scimitar-formed foliage, scarcely imbricated, and bifarious. Sometimes this bifarious or parallel-rowed character is inconstant, as we once saw in another specimen, where from some accident, a single row was present on the branch. As the tree advances in height, for this abundance of foliage is substituted long, pendent branches, towards the extremities of which only, clusters of leaves are to be seen. Rising to the elevated growth of 228 feet, as in some instances, and being even 30 feet in circumference, it would be presumable that its timber must be of value. Its heaviness, however, renders it unfit for spars, and from a liability to unsoundness, is only used in in-door carpentry work.

Another and more curious species we have seen in this vicinity under cultivation—the *Araucaria imbricata*, which grows spontaneously on the mountains of South America, between 36° and 39° S. latitude. Its contour is much less graceful than *A. excelsa*, while its foliage is most singular, being of broad, lance-like, rigid and sharp-pointed dark green leaves, and not a little reminding one of some kind of Ruscus or butcher's broom. We have seen a plant of this kind in the collection of Col. M. P. Wilder.

A third species is *A. Braziliensis*, growing in the southern provinces of Brazil, and much more impatient of cold. It resembles the last, but its leaves are longer, weaker and less densely and compactly imbricate.

Forest trees of the magnitude and superb proportion of these sorts of pines, are worthy the attention of the curious culturist. The second kind above mentioned, has been reared in the open air near London, and in a country like ours, embracing all temperatures, the intelligence and enterprize of its widely spread population should institute such series of experiments in the branches of arboriculture, as would render eminent service hereafter to the value and fertility of its soils.

DENDROPHILUS.

For the N. E. Farmer.

HINTS ON HANDLING BARS.

Since I commenced farming, I have hired many men, and never one that knew how to take out a pair of bars and put them up again in a proper manner. Farmers' bars are commonly made of split posts and split rails, and it sometimes happens that the posts or some of the rails, are a little winding, or some of the post holes are of a little different size from the others, so that a rail will go well in one place and not at all in another; that is, if they have been properly fitted, so that they will take out and put up well, if always put in the same place, where they were fitted to go, which is always easy, by observing the following method.

When a man takes hold of a bar rail to take it out, he always puts one hand on the under side of it: he should take the upper rail first, and lay it far enough off to make room for all the others; and lay it with the under side next to him, and so of all the others; it being perfectly natural so to lay them. For putting up, take the rail next to him first, which will be the under one, and put the edge next to him down, and so of all the others. In this way the rails are always in their place. But hired men, until they are otherwise taught, will take the rails out and throw them off, crossed and mixed up; and if it is a rail fence that adjoins the post, perhaps the top rail is broken; or if a stone wall, some of the top stones are thrown off; but if no mischief is done, when they come to put them up again, they *no go*—then the post is racked about, and perhaps broken, and if no damage is done, there is twice the time spent that would be necessary to do it in a proper manner

It may be said, this is all a small concern: it may be so in the opinion of some; but let any man carry on a farm for fifty years and try to keep all his bars as well as other things in order, and have as much mischief and loss of time as I have, by this one small thing, and he will think it is worth attending to. Most hired men and some masters, when they are passing with a team from a pasture, where there are cattle, find it quite too much work to put the bars up sufficiently to stop cattle, but only a single rail, and that higher at one end than at the other, so that if the cattle come, they can go over or under, as suits their convenience, and they certainly will one or the other; and in this way all the cattle on a farm will soon be made rogues. Now a calculating kind of man will say, "sure bind, sure find," and *will* have all his bars left so that they are known to be safe. A FARMER.

MANUFACTURE OF SILK.

That silk can be raised with perfect ease in this country—that our climate from north to south, is admirably adapted to the constitution and health of the worm, far better than that of Europe, and to the growth of the mulberry tree in its different varieties, has been satisfactorily proved by thousands of experiments. While in Europe, owing to the humidity of their climate, nearly one half of the crop of worms usually die from disease, and they are obliged to have their cocooneries nicely regulated in their temperature by the thermometer, here, owing to the dryness and warmth of our atmosphere, with proper care, scarce a worm dies from disease; and a building of the cheapest construction—any out-house, shed or barn—answers perfectly well for a cocoonery. That the silk made in this country is of the very best quality, for fineness, lustre and strength, equal to any in the world, has been decided by competent judges. Specimens of raw silk have been sent to European manufacturers, and pronounced by them to be superior. There is no more mystery or difficulty in raising the worms than in raising chickens. Persons have succeeded perfectly well, even to the reeling and spinning of the silk into beautiful sewing silk, who never saw a silkworm or a cocoon before. If, then, abundance of the raw material, of the best quality may be produced without any difficulty, what should hinder us from becoming a silk growing country, and from manufacturing it, not only into sewing silk, but into all the variety of silk stuffs used by our people; and thus save the millions which are annually drained from us, to pay foreigners for raising and manufacturing our silk? We prophecy that in ten years we shall raise, if not manufacture our own silk, and that in fifteen years, raw silk will form as important an article for foreign exportation, as does now our cotton.—*Albany Cultivator.*

From Low's Practical Agriculture.

THE TARE.

The Tare, *Vicia sativa*, is one of the most esteemed of the leguminous forage plants of this country (England.) It is an annual plant, indigenous, and hardy. There are several varieties of it, one of which is distinguished by producing yellow seeds.

The tare, by being sown in autumn or in spring, acquires habits so different, that many have supposed the spring and winter tares, as they are called, to be different species. They are, however, the same species, and do not even constitute botanical varieties; but, from the different habits of ripening which they acquire, they should be always sown at the periods to which they are respectively suited; that is, the winter tares should be sown in autumn and the spring tares in spring; for experiments have shown, that the spring tares sown in autumn will frequently perish in the first frosts, while the winter tares will continue uninjured. This requires the more attention, as the seeds of the two kinds are so similar that no means of discriminating them exist.

When tares are cultivated for green food at a late season, they are to be sown in spring; and in order to procure a succession of cuttings during the months of summer and autumn, portions of the ground should be sown at intervals from the middle of March to the end of May.

When tares are to be sown in autumn, for early feeding in the ensuing season, the land frequently receives only one ploughing, after which the seeds are sown in the usual manner, and harrowed. A little further tillage, however, would be beneficial, so as thoroughly to prepare the ground.

When tares are sown in spring, the land should receive a ploughing before winter, as in the case of pease and beans. It should be cross-ploughed again in spring, and well harrowed, and receive a second ploughing, if possible; for it is always well to prepare the surface carefully for the seeds of this plant. After they are sown, the land should be rolled, to facilitate the subsequent action of the scythe. If manure had been required for the crop, it should have been applied in the previous autumn.

Tares should always be sown on land which is in good condition and clean. It is a great error to sow tares on land which is not in this state. The tares are considered in many places as a kind of bye crop; hence they are left to struggle with weeds, and made important advantages attending their cultivation are lost. The management of the tare in England is much superior to that pursued in Scotland.

The quantity of seeds sown may be from 3 to 4 bushels to the acre. When the crop is sown for its seeds alone, a smaller quantity will suffice, as 2 1-2 bushels to the acre.

It is common to mix a portion of some of the cereal grasses with the tare, the effect of which is to increase the quantity of fodder; the stems of the grasses rising above the foliage of the tares, and both growing without interrupting each other. For winter tares rye is best suited, for spring tares oats or barley.

Tares, when used as green forage, are cut after the pods are formed, but long before the seeds become ripe. Tares, therefore, being in the class of crops not allowed to mature their seeds, are not exhausting to the soil. On the contrary, with relation to the farm, they are to be considered as restorative crops, from the quantity of manure which the consumption of them affords. They are exceedingly nutritious, and supply a larger quantity of food for a limited period, than almost any other forage crop.

The usual mode of sowing tares is broadcast, though they are better sown in rows, like the pea and the bean. This, indeed, is by no means so essential to the success of the crop as in the case of the bean and pea, for the produce of the tare is chiefly the stem and leaves, and the pods and seeds are of little comparative importance; the admission of air, therefore, for the swelling of pods and seeds is not necessary. The plants, too, cover the intervals of the rows quickly, and so do not admit of much time and opportunity for tillage during their growth.

Tares are chiefly cultivated for green forage; but they may be also cultivated partially for their seeds. In this case, the mode of culture is the same as that of the pea. The land should not be too rich, so as to cause them to run to straw instead of producing pods; and it is a good practice to mix a small quantity of beans with them, to support and keep them from trailing on the ground.—The beans, from their difference of size, are easily separated by riddles from the tares. In the practice of the farm it is common to cultivate tares for green forage, and merely to reserve that part of the crop for seeds which is not used in this manner. They are then reaped, stacked, and dressed, like pease.

When the tare is cut very early, it may rise again and produce a second crop; and even a third cutting is sometimes obtained. In the northern parts of the island, the farmers scarce ever attempt to produce more than one crop in the season.

Tares are sometimes consumed by penning sheep upon them; but the better practice is to feed the sheep from racks. When the larger animals are fed on this food, it should always be supplied to them from racks in houses or yards.

All the animals of the farm are fond of this legume, and all thrive upon it in an eminent degree. Hogs may be fattened entirely upon it. It is suited to milch cows, causing them to give more butter than any other species of food, and it is employed extensively in the feeding of horses. All the English agriculturists are impressed with a high opinion of the value of tares. They are not only casually employed, as in Scotland, to fill up the intervals between the cuttings of clovers, but they are often the principal source of feeding from the month of May to November.

There are several species of vicia, with broad leaves, resembling those of beans, cultivated in Germany for the same purposes as the tare:

1. Vicia narbonnensis—Narbonne Vetch.
2. Vicia platycarpos—Broad-podded Vetch.
3. Vicia serratifolia—Saw-leaved Vetch.

But none of these species is equal in productiveness to the common tare.

Another of the genus vicia is Vicia pseudo-cracca, Annual Tufted Vetch. This species is of very luxuriant growth, but flowers at a late season. It is as yet untried in the agriculture of this country. It might, perhaps, supply a desideratum, namely, the affording of a large quantity of green forage after the pastures have begun to decay in autumn, and before the turnips and similar plants are ready for use.

Vicia biennis, Biennial Vetch, is a native of Siberia. This species is of luxuriant growth, and comes early in spring. It was cultivated by Miller so long ago as 1759, and recommended by him as a plant of great promise; but no experiments upon it on the large scale are recorded. Its stems have a certain degree of hardness, and its leaves a somewhat insipid taste.

Vicia sylvatica, Wood Vetch, is perennial. It grows in woods with a stem from 3 to 5 feet high, climbing by its tendrils, and bearing beautiful little flowers streaked with bluish veins. The wood vetch, as its name denotes is truly the inhabitant of woods, and, when removed to exposed situations, its size and productiveness diminish. For this reason, perhaps, it is not adapted to cultivation.

Vicia Cracca, Tufted Vetch, grows in hedges and bushy places, climbing also by tendrils, and bearing numerous purple flowers. It is, like the last, perennial, but is more productive when removed from its natural habitat. It is, however, late in growing, and appears to be much inferior in usefulness to the clovers. It grows on soils of low fertility.

Vicia sepium, Bush Vetch, is a plant growing also in hedges and bushy places. It is perennial, flowers early, and yields a good weight of produce. Although its natural habitat is bushy and shady places, it grows in cultivated fields, and has a somewhat wide range of soils. From these characters, and the trials that have been made, there is reason to infer that the bush vetch would be a beneficial addition to the cultivated herbage plants of this country. There is great difficulty in procuring its seeds in its wild state, from its dispersing them as soon as ripe; a character, however, which would probably be changed by cultivation, as happens in the case of other wild plants.

Of the important genus *Vicia*, about 100 species have been enumerated by botanists, and many of them seem to be highly deserving of experiment for their economical uses.

[Communicated.]

ROHAN POTATOES.

Mr Breck—Having grown the Rohan potatoes for the two years past, I would suggest, from my observation, that they should be planted early, on rich, moist land, with not more than two eyes to a hill. On dry land I should fear the bone manure. In fact, I have not succeeded with bone, with any potatoes or corn. My yield in the garden without forcing, and with barnyard manure, has been about 136 per cent.: in a poor field, where the crop was overtaken by the frost, with the vines rank and green, and of course not at maturity, was 50 per cent. But in any case I have no doubt they will come into general culture, and when we have been fully advised of their habits, they will prove themselves a great favorite of the farmer. F.

Avarice.—Never has the avaricious man enough and never is he happy. He has no relish for the enjoyments of life, and deprives himself of its necessaries to increase his riches. He fancies himself indigent, and trembles with the apprehension that he will yet have to beg his bread. By degrees he withers away, without having conferred a single benefit upon his species, and the fruits of his selfishness are left to his heirs, who do not even respect his memory.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1840.

A CARD.

The Commissioner of Agricultural Survey acknowledges the receipt of a fine sample of Parker corn, from Abram Washburn, 2d, Esq. of, Bridgewater, whose farming has been repeatedly and deservedly honored by the premiums of the Plymouth County Agricultural Society.

Feb. 22d.

SEVENTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The Representatives' Hall being engaged for another purpose on Thursday evening, the Seventh Agricultural meeting will be held on Friday evening next, 28th inst. at 7 o'clock. Subject for discussion—The Small Grains.

Gen. H. A. S. Dearborn, by invitation of the Committee of Arrangements, is expected to address the meeting.

SILK CONVENTION.

The Ninth Agricultural Meeting to be holden at the State House in Boston, on the second Thursday evening in March, will be devoted to the discussion of the Silk Culture.

The attendance of gentlemen in any part of the country interested in this subject, is respectfully requested. The meeting will be continued by adjournment as long as may be judged expedient.

Publishers and editors interested in this matter, or favorably disposed towards it, are respectfully requested to extend this notice.

HENRY COLMAN,
Commissioner of Agricultural Survey.

Feb. 24.

FIFTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

INDIAN CORN.

We continue our reports of the Fifth Agricultural Meeting; the subject under discussion being Indian corn.

Mr Meriam, of Tewksbury, on a visit to Poughkeepsie in 1838, found among those enterprising and intelligent farmers of Dutchess county, N. Y., that Indian corn was a crop highly esteemed, and upon which great reliance was placed. A farmer there with one hundred acres of land, would calculate to raise his five hundred bushels of corn. This valuable crop among our farmers had been much neglected.

The Poughkeepsie farmers could obtain manure for one dollar and fifty cents per load, but in many cases they preferred ploughing in green crops. They planted more to the acre than it was our habit to do, and they were extremely particular in the selection of their seed. All these were points in their cultivation to be approved and imitated. In these particulars our farmers were remiss; and especially in the selection of seed.

On his return, he established himself at Tewksbury, Middlesex county. He cultivated eight to nine acres in corn. He had made several experiments in the different kinds of corn. He had tried the large Dutton, the Canada, and the Brown corn, which had been so highly commended in the Monthly Visitor. He wrote to Mr Brown, and having obtained the seed, he found that in its color, compactness and size, it entirely corresponded to the description given of it.

He planted the Brown corn three days before the Dutton. It was fit for boiling when the Dutton corn was setting for ears. It was earlier than the kind known as the Phinney corn. The Phinney corn he preferred to the Canada. He selected his seed of the Brown corn from stalks producing two ears to a stalk. In going through his field he found much of it producing two, some of it three ears to a stalk. His corn was ripe the last week in August. Had he planted only the Brown corn, he should have obtained forty bushels more than he did. His Brown corn yielded 64 1-4 bushels per acre. In the autumn we had a severe gale, by which the corn suffered severely, wherever it was exposed, and the crop was greatly lessened. His Brown corn had passed the season of danger before this storm took place.

With respect to ploughing, the work among us was imperfectly executed. Foreign agriculturists perform their work in stirring the ground with horses. Americans do it with men. His own experience has satisfied him that the ground should be well manured, as vegetables require good feeding as much as animals. He is of opinion that in ploughing, the ground or sward should be completely inverted. The heat and light must be excluded, or the vegetable matter will not be decomposed.* The piper grass will make its appearance and injure the crop.† Heavy lands should not be deeply ploughed. When the light and heat are not excluded, the sward will not be decomposed. He would harrow the ground after spreading his manure two or three times. Rolling it after ploughing, serves to exclude light and heat. With regard to planting, he would not put manure in the hill. It is unphilosophical. It is like feeding an animal too high; like giving a pig pure Indian pudding and then winding up the fatting process with dish-water.

Mr Meriam was of opinion that the great error of our farmers was, in going over too much ground; and in not cultivating well what they undertook to cultivate. Under poor cultivation, Indian corn was often a losing crop. By good cultivation, with less labor and expense, a farmer might obtain from one acre as much as is now by imperfect cultivation, obtained from three acres.

The proper mode of planting depends somewhat on the ability of manuring the land; the frequency or nearness of the hills should bear some correspondence to the richness of the soil. He had a neighbor who spread his manure and manured his corn in the hill likewise. In planting, he put fifteen kernels to the hill, and selecting the best, left three stalks in a hill. His crop was more than eighty bushels to the acre. He did not plough more than two inches deep. Had he ploughed six inches deep, and excluded the light and heat from the inverted sward, his crop would have been better.‡

In regard to hoeing, he would say, if the lands are inclined to suffer from drought, he would use the cultivator in preference to the hoe. On dry lands no hill should be made: on spongy and wet land, corn should be hilled. In the harvesting of corn, he deemed it not advisable to cut it up at bottom, but when the corn was well forwarded, to top the stalks and allow the crop to ripen fully on the butt before it is gathered.

Mr James W. Carter, from Lancaster, Worcester county, then addressed the meeting.

He began by saying that he did not feel at liberty to decline the call of the Chair. The President was accustomed to lay all his friends under contribution when he thought it would serve the public benefit. To speak here upon agriculture, was a new duty to him. He had been, much of his life, accustomed to give instruction, but he was not used, and he should not undertake, to give instruction to farmers in regard to their duty. For his own part, he had been much more familiar with turning periods than with turning furrows.

His early life, however, had been spent in rural scenes and occupations. Until he was twenty years old, he had been accustomed to labor on a farm. His early attachments to the useful and delightful pursuits of agriculture, so far from being abated, had daily become strengthened. The remainder of his life he considered devoted to agriculture. The pursuit constantly became more interesting to him, and he found its practical labors a source of pure and grateful enjoyment.

He felt deeply the importance of this subject in all its bearings upon individual and social comfort, and in its political and moral aspects. Its importance could not be overestimated. It gave him great pleasure to meet so large and respectable an assembly, devoted to agricultural inquiries; and he trusted that these discussions and the mutual interchange of experiences and opinions would lead to the development and establishment of important principles as a safe basis for practice. Agriculture has been too much matter of guesswork or of slavish and blind adherence to former practices. He would have it matter of inquiry and of sound science.

On the subject before the meeting, the cultivation of Indian Corn, he had been much gratified and interested by the remarks of his friend from Northampton. His object was to save labor and manure. This he himself admitted was a capital object. This labor and manure in farming operations, constituted all the trouble in farming: but if he should attempt to get along without labor and manure, his crops, to use a school phrase with which he was familiar, would be "minus." His soil needs much cultivation. It is a heavy soil resting upon a clayey subsoil. He had found one change in the mode of cultivation advantageous. The old mode of making hills round his corn he had abandoned, as a useless expense of labor and of no advantage to the crop.

In preparing for his corn crop he divides his manure into two parts; that which is green he spreads upon the land at the rate of twelve to twenty buck loads per acre and ploughs it under four or five days before planting. He ploughs with as much evenness and exactness as possible. His fine compost manure made in his yards the preceding summer, he puts into the hill at planting. This is the first food of the plants, prepared for their immediate use. As the plant advances, and extends its roots, it finds the long manure ploughed under, the gradual decomposition of which, has by that time been brought into a condition to be taken up by the plants. He deems it of great importance to plant in straight rows and to have his furrows even and true. He uses the cultivator, and spreads it so that all the land between the rows may be thoroughly stirred without disturbing the sward, and by having his rows straight, he can approach the more nearly to the plants. He is of opinion that the oftener he uses the cultivator among his corn, the better the crop will be. He cuts up the supernumerary stalks; and by his mode of cultivation, he has very much increased his products. He now gets eighty bushels to the acre. He objects to planting corn in drills, as he thinks it increases very much the labor of cultivation, without any additional profit. Immediately after harvest he puts on another dressing of manure and ploughs it in, turning up the sod; as his experience is in favor of this practice.

(Should this report catch Mr Carter's eye, we hope he will do us the favor of stating the next step in his progress; what crop follows his corn; and what reasons he would give for reverting the sod at this second ploughing, instead of cultivating a grain crop by merely harrowing it in as is the approved practice of many excellent cultivators. Does he find the sward completely decomposed after one crop; or does he derive an advantage from hastening its decomposition by thus breaking it up by the plough? H. C.)

Mr Allen Putnam continued the discussion.

He had made experiments with six different kinds of corn. Some which he received last year from the Commissioner, and which he called the Colman corn, he did not approve, as it yielded fifty bushels only per acre. (Now as we did not originate the corn, and gave it to him not for its productiveness, but its early maturity, we begged him at once to alter the name.)

The second, was the Richards' corn, which did better. (So much for Mr Richards.)

The third was the Bosson corn; sometimes called the Parker corn, and originally from Canada. This produced fifty five bushels per acre.

The fourth, the celebrated Tree corn, which gave sixty two bushels to the acre. This kind he pronounced too late for our climate.

The fifth, the Tuscarora corn, which was first introduced as a garden corn. It was highly productive. The kernel was large, sound, and brittle. The meal was sweet; and on warm and good lands, the yield excellent. This gave sixty bushels per acre.

The sixth, the Dutton corn, did not do so well as the Brown corn, which was the kind they customarily planted. The Dutton would measure most on the cob in the basket; but when shelled, compared with the Brown corn, it would yield less by one quart in a bushel.

He was not desirous of increasing the number of ears upon a stalk. The number of ears on a stalk seemed to be gained at the expense of the size of the ears and the quantity of corn. He referred again to the great value of the harrow in the cultivation of this crop, and the importance of seeding liberally.

He approved the practice of harvesting his crop by cutting it up at the bottom soon after it was glazed. It would cure well though the ear were but slightly and imperfectly glazed. The corn which was thus managed had proved in the kernel the most plump and best. The larger the stalk of the corn the better the stook would stand; and though they had had foggy and wet weather after the corn was thus set up in the field, it had remained uninjured.

The further discussion of the subject was continued to the next meeting. H. C.

*This philosophy is somewhat questionable; but we are to be understood as acting as mere reporters.

†Here is a new name for the *triticum repens*, or creeping wheat, otherwise squitch or quack grass. This grass is a perfect alias, and has as many names as are to be found in the first chapter of Matthew.

‡It was really quite a tolerable crop as it was. Eighty bushels per acre is no trifle. We think Mr M. must have labored under a mistake as to the ploughing being but two inches, and regret that we cannot send him a proof for correction, if correction be necessary.

SIXTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The Sixth Agricultural Meeting was held on Thursday evening 20th inst., and was very fully attended. The discussion was managed by Mr E. H. Derby, Mr Dodge, Mr Clark, Mr Putnam, Mr Cook, and others, and much interesting matter was brought out.

The Hon. Wm. Foster likewise addressed the meeting at length on French and Spanish practices in husbandry, with which, from several years' residence, he had been familiar, and pointing out in what respects our farmers may gather from them many useful hints.

A full report is in the hands of the compositor, but the state of our columns forbids its insertion. These reports we are happy to learn, are looked for by our readers with interest, and we shall try to continue and hereafter to put them in circulation fresh from the mint. If we once more get up with the team, we shall hope to keep up, and not be travelling on in this style far behind, and crying out "Mister, let us get on." H. C.

SILK MEETING.

We particularly invite the attention of all interested to the notice of the discussion of the subject of the silk culture, on the second Thursday in March. We hope it will be fully attended by our friends from a distance, and that many will come prepared not only to say, but to show what they have done. Northampton, Hartford, Amherst, Bolton, Harvard, Portsmouth, Providence, R. I., Attention! the whole. Look well to the right! Dress! H. C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE N. E. FARMER:

In the report of my remarks at the State House relating to Indian corn, you make me say that after having spread ten or twelve loads of manure to the acre, I put twentythree loads more in the hill. I said, or meant to say, that ten or twelve more were put in the hill, making in all twentytwo or three. Also, you make me say in one place that the crop in 1839 was 77 bu. per acre, and in another, that it was 87 bu. and 19 qts. The average yield of the large kind was 77 bu., and on one acre (the best,) it was 87 bu. and 19 qts. You also expose my ignorance of figures when you make me say that corn 3 ft. apart gives 4300 hills to the acre. My corn was that number of hills to the acre, but it was more than 3 ft. apart. There were eight bundles in a stook—you say four.

ALLEN PUTNAM.

We make these corrections with pleasure. It is extremely difficult to report numerical statements, and if we do not commit the unpardonable sin of misstating a lady's age by putting down 40 instead of 20, we think we get along pretty well. We know the habitual exactness of our respected friend; but we believe "he made himself say" some of these things, since some of our contemporaries seem to have understood him as we did.—H. C.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, Feb. 24, 1840.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 380 Beef Cattle, 14 pairs Working Oxen, 20 Cows and Calves, 1200 Sheep, and 100 Swine.

About 50 Beef Cattle unsold.

PRICES.—*Beef Cattle.*—Sales were very dull and the prices obtained last week were not sustained on the best qualities. We quote First quality, $6 75. Second quality, $6 25 a $6 50. Third quality, $5 25 a $5 75.

Working Oxen.—A very few sales only were effected

Cows and Calves.—"Dull." We notice a few sales at $25, $32, $38, $40 and $45.

Sheep.—Nearly half at market were rather ordinary. Lots at $2 50, $3 25, $3 75, $4 25 and $5 00.

Swine.—Those at market were previously contracted for at 4 7-8. Two thirds barrows. A very few only were retailed.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending February 23.

Feb., 1840.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	17	23	44	35	S.
Tuesday,	18	31	44	37	S. E.
Wednesday,	19	35	47	30	S. E.
Thursday,	20	49	60	56	S.
Friday,	21	45	50	38	N. W.
Saturday,	22	27	48	44	W.
Sunday,	23	53	64	57	S.

FARMS FOR SALE.

For sale, a farm in a high state of cultivation, situated in the southerly part of Needham, bordering on Charles River, pleasantly situated, and within one quarter of a mile of Needham and Dover Mills, and within six miles of Dedham Court House, containing about 55 acres of land suitably divided into tillage and pasturing; well watered, and mostly fenced with good stone walls.

There is a young orchard containing about 150 choice Fruit Trees in a flourishing state; a large and convenient dwelling house; a new Barn 40 by 60 feet, with a store and Granary connected with it, and cellar under the whole, with a first rate piggery. If said farm is not sold by the first of April next, the house and store will be to let. The store is convenient and well situated for trade.

Also—a small farm situated in the northerly part of Dover, and within half a mile of the above named mills; a desirable situation for a mechanic, containing about 30 acres of land, and well watered; with house, barn, and out-buildings.

The stock and farming utensils of the said farm will be sold at public auction on Wednesday, 18th March.

For further particulars inquire of LEONARD BATTELLE, in Needham, near said farms, or CALVIN FRENCH, on the premises.

Needham, Feb. 26, 1840. 4w

FARM FOR SALE.

For sale, a superior farm of nearly fifty acres, between Boston and Lowell, 15 miles from the former place; on which is situated a convenient dwelling house, barn, and other builings in good repair, and an orchard of choice fruit trees. For further particulars inquire of the subscribers, No. 52 North Market Street. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

February 26. 6w*

TO FARMERS.

500 casks Lime, of good quality, for sale by the subscribers at their wharf Front Street.

We would remind consumers of this article that the casks are larger and have at least one fourth more in quantity than in former years. Price 112 cents per cask.

CARTER & WILLARD.

February 26. 4w

WEBSTER'S SEEDS.

The subscribers beg leave to state that they have received Mr Webster's Seeds; those who wish to experiment upon them and obtain a portion, had better call or send soon. They are as follows—

Hopetoun Winter Oats.
Essex do. do.
Dutch Poland Spring do.
Kent Tartary do.
Essex Winter Beans.
Mumford's Garden, or Horse Beans.
Yorkshire Prolific Beans.
Suffolk Harrad Tick do.
Whittington Winter Wheat.
Surrey Golden Drop do. do.
Winter Tares, or Vetches.
Spring Tares, or Vetches.
Italian Rye Grass.
Pacey Rye Grass.
White Globe Turnip.
Pomeranian do.
Swedish do.
Red Tankard do.
Yellow Scotch do.
White Tankard do.
Purple Top Hybrid.
Red Globe Mangel Wurtzel.
White do. do.

We have also received some of the Early Hope Cabbage Seed, which was tried last year at New York and proved to be superior to any Early Cabbage hitherto known in the country.

We have now in New York, which will come to hand in a few days, some of the Chevalier Barley, which we shall be happy to offer to our customers.

It has been understood by some that the seeds were left with us for gratuitous distribution. We wish to correct this mistake as it is not the case. We were directed to dispose of them at a small advance, sufficient to pay for our trouble, storage, &c. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Feb. 12, 1840.

SEEDS FOR HOT BEDS.

Early London Cauliflower.
Early Dutch do.
Early York Cabbage.
Early Hope do. (very superior.)
Early Broccoli, of sorts.
Sinot's Early Frame Cucumber.
Giant White Solid Celery.
Do Red do.
New Dwarf Red Solid do.
Do. White do.
Superior Double Curled Parsley.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

February 19.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		FROM	TO
ALUM, American,	pound	5	5½
ASHES, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		5 75	5 87
Pot, " " "		5 00	5 12
BEANS, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 62	2 00
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	2 00
BEEF, mess,	barrel	14 00	15 00
No. 1.	"	12 00	13 00
prime,	"	10 00	11 00
BEESWAX, white,	pound		
yellow,	"	28	35
BRISTLES, American,	"	35	70
BUTTER, shipping,	"	10	11
dairy,	"	15	18
CANDLES, mould,	"	13	14
dipped,	"		
sperm,	"	38	
CHEESE, new milk,	pound	10	
CIDER,	dozen	1 50	1 75
refined,	barrel	2 50	4 50
BONE MANURE,	bushel		35
in casks,	"		40
FEATHERS, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	46
FLAX. (American)	"	9	12
FISH, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	2 25	2 50
Bay, Chaleur,	"	2 00	2 17
Haddock,	"		1 50
Mackerel, No. 1,	barrel	12 50	
No. 2,	"		11 50
No. 3,	"	6 21	6 25
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1.	"	5 00	5 25
Salmon, No. 1,	"	17 00	18 00
FLOUR, Genesee, cash,	"	7 00	7 12
Baltimore, Howard street,	"		6 75
Richmond canal,	"	6 50	6 62
Alexandria wharf,	"		
Rye,	"	4 62	4 75
MEAL, Indian, in bbls.	"	4 00	4 12
GRAIN: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel		
southern flat, yellow,	"		70
white,	"		60
Rye, northern,	"		
Barley,	"	75	80
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	46	48
southern,	"	38	40
GRINDSTONES, pr ton of 2000 lbs. rough,		18 00	19 00
do. do. do. finished,		28 00	30 00
HAMS, northern,	pound	9	10
southern and western,	"	7	8
HAY, best English, per ton,		15 00	18 00
Eastern screwed,		12 50	13 00
HOPS, 1st quality,	pound	25	27
2d quality,	"		
LARD, Boston,	"	10	11
southern,	"	9	10
LEATHER, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	29	30
do. country do.	"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,	"	26	28
do. dry hides,	"	22	24
New York red, light,	"	21	23
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	21	22
Boston dry hides,	"	20	22
LIME, best sort,	cask	85	90
MOLASSES, New Orleans,	gallon	27	30
Sugar House,	"	50	55
OIL, Sperm, Spring,	"	1 07	1 10
Winter,	"	1 12	1 14
Whale, refined,	"	50	55
Linseed, American,	"	68	70
Neat's Foot,	"	95	
PLASTER PARIS, per ton of 2200 lbs.		2 75	3 00
PORK, extra clear,	barrel	17 00	18 00
clear,	"	16 00	17 00
Mess,	"	14 00	15 00
Prime,	"	12 00	12 50
Whole Hogs,	pound	5½	6½
SEEDS: Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 50	2 75
Red Top, southern,	"	80	1 00
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"	2 00	2 25
Hemp,	"	2 25	2 50
Flax,	"	1 37	1 62
Red Clover, northern,	pound	12	14
Southern Clover, none.	"		
SOAP, American, Brown,	"	5	7
" Castile,	"	12	13
TALLOW, tried,	"	11	12
TEAZLES, 1st sort,	pr M.	2 50	3 00
WOOL, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	50	55
American, full blood, washed,	"	47	50
do. 3-4ths do.	"	44	46
do. 1-2 do.	"	40	42
do. 1-4 and common,	"	37	40
Northern pulled: Pulled superfine,	"	45	50
No. 1,	"	38	40
No. 2,	"	25	26
No. 3,	"	18	22

MISCELLANEOUS.

For the New England Farmer.

CONSUMPTION.

She was a bright young creature, full of joy
And hope—the very life of the loving
Inmates of her home. Health was in her eye,
Gladness in her step. And a meek, trusting
Spirit dwelt in a heart all purity.

She was, to those who knew her, as the stars
To the lone traveller on his midnight way :
Or, as the smiling, early flowers of spring
When first they yield their fragrance to the air
In all its freshness, are to him who greets
Their bright return with deep, impassioned gaze.

Pure as the mountain dew was the rich stream
Of love that flowed within her heart—a heart
Formed to feel sympathy with human woe.
Sorrow ne'er cast its shadow o'er her path ;
Grief never dimmed the lustre of her eye ;
Love was her portion—for her parents, brothers,
Sisters, all summed up their deep affections
And poured them out on her—thou dearest one.

—

A few short years had glided by and she
Was still beside them—still the same loved one,
But oh ! how changed. Consumption's withering form
Had passed and breathed on her an influence—
Blighting. Affection wildly called on death
To stay his hand ; but ah, how vain the prayers !
Swiftly he sent his viewless arrow forth
And lodged it in the fountain head of life,
Poisoning its waters. Oh ! it was
Agony—deep, unspeakable—to gaze
On one so loving and beloved, and mark
The progress of disease filling the clear
Bright spring of life with foul impurities :
Daily to watch with fear the wasting frame,
And cheek, and feel the light of hope depart,
As the heart-rending truth rushed on the mind
That she, indeed, must die. ZERA.

I BOW NOT YET.

I bow not yet—there 's that within
Can soothe the pain of every care,
Can lift my drooping spirit up
And give bright hope a welcome there ;
'Tis the blest thought that there is one
So full of mercy, truth and love
That when I raise my heart in prayer
He listens from his throne above—
And bids me—fearless—onward press,
Nor heed the changing hues of time,
To look beyond this cheating earth
To that bright world—that blissful clime—
Where friendship, love and truth shall meet,
Pure hearts unite in converse sweet—
And immortality be mine. ZERA.

THE FARMERS' COMPANION,

Or Essays on the Principle and Practice of American Husbandry with the Address prepared to be delivered before the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of New Haven County, Connecticut, and an Appendix containing Tables and other matter useful to the Farmer. Second edition. By the late Hon. Jesse Buel, conductor of the Albany Cultivator. For sale at the New England Farmer Office.
February 19. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

VEGETABLE CUTTER.

Willis's New Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine is calculated for cutting up vegetables and esculent roots for fodder, and is one of the most useful and economical machines that the farmer can use. The subscribers feel great confidence in recommending this machine to the public; they are aware that it has been long wanted and they now offer a machine that cannot fail to give satisfaction upon a fair trial. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels per minute, in the best possible manner, and is not liable to get out of order, being made in the most substantial manner. No farmer should be without one of them. For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market Street.
December 18. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

BONE MANURE.

The subscriber informs his friends and the public, that after ten years experience, he is fully convinced that ground bones form the most powerful stimulant that can be applied to the earth as a manure.

He keeps constantly on hand a supply of Ground Bone, and solicits the patronage of the agricultural community. Price at the Mill 35 cents per bushel ; put up in casks and delivered at any part of the city at 40 cents per bushel, and no charge for casks or carting.

Also, ground Oyster Shells.

Orders left at the Bone Mill, near Tremont road, in Roxbury, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No 52 North Market Street, or through the Post Office will meet with prompt attention.
NAHUM WARD.

FLOWER SEEDS—CHOICE VARIETIES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have received a choice assortment of Flower Seeds from England and France, which, in addition to what have been raised under their own inspection, embrace the finest collection to be found in the country, including all the new Annuals, Biennials, and Perennials worthy of cultivation; neatly done up in papers at 6 1-4, 12 1-2, and 25 cents each. For sale at 51 and 52 North Market Street.
February 5.

SCIONS OF FRUIT TREES FOR SALE.

The collection of fruits cultivated at the Pomological Garden consists of more than 1400 varieties of the Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry and Peach. Scions of all those which have been proved are offered to nurserymen and others. Gentlemen wishing to send collections of American fruits to their friends in Europe can be furnished with most of those of first rate quality. They are warranted true to their names, and are in all cases cut from fruit bearing trees.
Salem, January 28, 1840. ROBERT MANNING.

FOR SALE.

An excellent Farm, pleasantly situated about 20 miles from the city, containing about 100 acres. For full description, particulars, &c. inquire at this office.

Also, a situation wanted by a man with a small family to carry on a farm.
January 30. 4w

ROHAN POTATOES,

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 52 North Market Street, at $5 per barrel.
October 16. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GARDENER WANTED.

Wanted, a Gardener of steady habits, that understands raising vegetables and taking care of fruit trees. An American, with a small family, would be preferred. None need apply without good recommendations.
February 19.

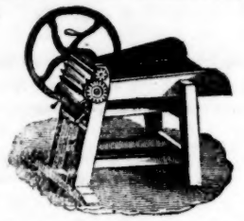
THE STATE REGISTER,

Containing the New Tariff for 1840, the Insolvent Law, New List of Post Offices, State, City and United States Authorities, Judges, Counsellors, Attorneys, Sheriffs and their Deputies, Masters in Chancery, Justices, Notaries, Coroners, Clergy, Physicians, Militia, Army and Navy, Banks and Insurance Companies, besides other useful matter. For sale by JAMES LORING, No. 132 Washington Street.
February 12. 3t

SITUATION WANTED AS GARDENER,

By a married man with no incumbrance but his wife—one whose practical experience is known to the amateurs of this vicinity. Any commands addressed to Joseph Breck & Co for M. I. will be promptly attended to.
Feb. 5.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it very efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale a great variety of Agricultural books, among which are the following:

Loudon's Encyclopedia of Gardening.
" " of Plants.
" " of Agriculture.
" Suburban Gardener.
Forbe's Hortus Woburnensis.
Practical Agriculture, by David Low.
Chaptal's Agricultural Chemistry.
Hogg on the Cultivation of the Carnation and other Florists Flowers.
The Florist Cultivator.
Bridgeman's Gardeners' Assistant.
Fessenden's American Gardener.
" Complete Farmer.
Kenrick's Orchardist.
Manning's First Book of Fruits.
Sayers' Fruit Garden Companion.
" Flower Garden Companion.
Treatise on Sugar Beet, by David Lee Child.
American Swine Breeder.
Mowbray on Poultry.
Monography of the Genus Camellia.
Dennis' Silk Manual.
Cobb's do.
Kenrick's Silk Growers Guide.
Whitmarsh on the Mulberry Tree and Silk Worm.
American Farrier.
Parley's Cyclopedia of Botany—The Young Florist.
Weeks' Treatise on Bees.
February 5.

ELEMENTS OF PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE.

Just received, a supply of the Elements of Practical Agriculture, comprehendinng the cultivation of plants, the husbandry of domestic animals, and the economy of the farm. By David Low, Esq. F. R. S. E., Professor of Agriculture in the University of Edinburg. Second edition, with numerous engravings ; 718 pp. London published. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., No. 51 and 52 North Market Street.
February 5.

GARDEN MATS.

For sale at the New England Farmer, 100 dozen Garden Mats, of extra quality, for covering hot beds, &c.
Feb. 12. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

Is published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing are entitled to a deduction of 50 cents.

TUTTLE, DENNETT AND CHISHOLM, PRINTERS,
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